

Kui-Chiu KWOK
"Meltblowing Method And Apparatus"
Atty. Docket No. 8010-61

Appl. No. 09/528,357
Confirm. No. 4073
Examiner J. Del Sole, AU 1732

Claims 1-47 (Canceled).

48. (Previously Presented) A meltblowing system comprising:

a body member having a plurality of first fluid orifices, the body member having a plurality of second fluid orifices, each first fluid orifice flanked on substantially opposing sides by two separate second fluid orifices,

5 the plurality of first fluid orifices and the plurality of second fluid orifices formed by respective corresponding fluid conduits disposed non-convergently in the body member;

10 a plurality of filaments, each filament emanating from a corresponding one of the plurality of first fluid orifices, the plurality of filaments each having a predominant vacillation amplitude between the two second fluid orifices on substantially opposing sides of the corresponding first fluid orifice.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 48, the plurality of first fluid orifices protruding relative to the plurality of second fluid orifices.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 48, two portions of the body member proximate each first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the two portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite

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sides of the corresponding first fluid orifice between the two second fluid orifices on substantially opposite sides thereof

Claims 51-66 (Canceled).

67. (Previously Presented) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:

a first fluid orifice in a body member;

two second fluid orifices in the body member, the two second fluid orifices

5 disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice,

the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit

disposed in the body member,

two portions of the body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of

fluid orifices, the two portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed

10 symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the two second fluid orifices.

68. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 67 further comprising in combination therewith a filament emanating from the first fluid orifice, the filament having a major vacillation amplitude between the two second fluid orifices on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice.

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69. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 68, the filament having a minor vacillation amplitude between the portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices.

70. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 67, the first and second fluid orifices disposed on a fluid dispensing face of the body member.

71. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 70, the first fluid orifice protrudes relative to the second fluid orifices.

72. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 67,
a plurality of first fluid orifices in the body member and a plurality of second fluid orifices in the body member,

the plurality first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit disposed in the body member,

each first fluid orifice having two second fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides thereof,

two portions of the body member proximate each first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the two portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed

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10 symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the corresponding first fluid orifice
between the two second fluid orifices on substantially opposite sides thereof.

73. (Previously Presented) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:

a first fluid orifice in a body member;

two second fluid orifices in the body member, the two second fluid orifices
disposed symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides of the first fluid
5 orifice,

the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit
disposed in the body member.

74. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 73, two portions of the
body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the two portions of
the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite
sides of the first fluid orifice between the two second fluid orifices.

75. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 73,

a plurality of first fluid orifices in the body member and a plurality of second
fluid orifices in the body member,

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the plurality first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid
5 conduit disposed in the body member,

each first fluid orifice having two second fluid orifices disposed
symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides thereof.

76. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 75, two portions of the
body member proximate each first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the two portions
of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially
opposite sides of the corresponding first fluid orifice between the two second fluid orifices
on substantially opposite sides thereof.

77. (Previously Presented) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:

a first fluid orifice in a body member;

a plurality of second fluid orifices in the body member,

5 the second fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on not more than two
substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice, at least one second fluid orifice on one
side of the first fluid orifice and at least one second fluid orifice on the other substantially
opposite side thereof,

the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit
disposed in the body member.

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78. (Currently Amended) The ~~[apparatuses]~~ apparatus of Claim 77, portions of the body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.

79. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 77, the first fluid orifice protrudes relative to the second fluid orifices.

80. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 77, the body member comprises at least two plates.

81. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 77,
a plurality of first fluid orifices in the body member,
each of the plurality of first fluid orifices having second fluid orifices
disposed symmetrically on not more than two substantially opposite sides thereof, at least
one second fluid orifice on one side of each first fluid orifice and at least one second fluid
orifice on the other substantially opposite side thereof.

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82. (Previously Presented) The apparatuses of Claim 81, portions of the body member proximate each first fluid orifice devoid of second fluid orifices, the portions of the body member devoid of second fluid orifices disposed symmetrically on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.

83. (Previously Presented) A meltblowing apparatus comprising:

a first fluid orifice in a body member;

a plurality of at least two second fluid orifices in the body member, the second fluid orifices disposed on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice,

5 the first and second fluid orifices each have a corresponding fluid conduit disposed in the body member,

portions of the body member proximate the first fluid orifice devoid of fluid orifices, the portions of the body member devoid of fluid orifices disposed on substantially opposite sides of the first fluid orifice between the second fluid orifices.